Sale of obsolete bogies in Visakhapatnam

†1940. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any incident of illegal sale of 12 obsolete bogies of the goods train in Visakhapatnam has come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against the culprits; and

(d) the concrete action taken by Government to prevent occurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The incharge of the concerned depot has been placed under suspension. The Central Bureau of Investigation, Visakhapatnam has taken over the case.

(d) To prevent recurrence, all concerned have been alerted to closely monitor all aspects of disposal of wagons.

Physically handicapped railway users

1941. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have not created any user friendly facilities for physically challenged and as a result they find it difficult to travel in trains; and;

(b) if so, the action taken to make physically handicapped user friendly railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Railway have planned to provide seven short term identified facilities at stations *viz* (i) standard ramp for barrier free entry, (ii) earmarking parking lots for vehicles used by disabled persons, (iii) non-slippery walkway, (iv) signages, (/) toilets, (vi) water taps suitable for needs

†Original notice of the question was receved in Hindi

of handicapped pensons(vii) May I Help you Booth to physically disabliled persons. in the fast instance all identified faciltties tove *been* provided *to* all "A"category stations. Now railway has planed to provide these facilies at all "B" category stations Railways have also started provding second-disss guard-csm-luggage (SLR) type coaches with disabled friendly features.. These coaches have (ii) wider doors then normal coaches to enable the disabled passenger to enter the coach while seated cam the wheel chair (iii) toilets which have been desigined with sumcient space for awheel chair bome passenger and (iii) wicer passage in the comoor to allow for movement of wheel chair.

manamadyrai- Raneswarm and manamadurai trichy stretch

1942. DR.K. MALNSAMY:Will the minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the peobable date of completionof manamadurai-Rameswarm stretch on the one side and trichy-Manamadurai stretch on the other which are

(b)how the railway lines are proposed to cross across the sea between Pamban and Rameswarm:and

(c) whether there will be a new bridge across the sea or the existing Pamban brudge will be wilened modemizied and strengthened f*or th*is URiUftpose suiftjjeott to technical stabitly and feasibilitly'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI R VELU): (a) to (c) on Madurai-Ramesjwarm (161kms) gauge convesin project Madurai-Manamadurai (48kms) section has already been completed and work on Manamdurai Mandapan secton is targeted for
compltion during 2005-06.Line between mandapam and Rameswarm is been fixed tor cinversion of this section.

The existing bridge at pamben netweem mandapam and Ra,eswarm Will be retaoined duly replacing/strengthening the existing mete gauge gitders to suit Broad Gauge standerd including Scherxer span..

on Tiruhchirappali Manamadurai(150kms) garge conversion project, work on Tiruchchirappli-Pudukottai*(52 kms*) section is targeted for